

## Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 ASUNCI 00993 111755Z

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15 AID-05

/072 W

-----120810Z 128212 /23-11

R 111530Z MAR 77

FM AMEMBASSY ASUNCION

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9598

UNCLAS ASUNCION 0993

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, PA

SUBJ: CONSTITUTION AMENDED TO ALLOW STROESSNER RE-ELECTION

REF: ASUNCION 0486

1. ON MARCH 10 THE 1967 CONSTITUTION WAS AMENDED TO PERMIT PRESIDENT STROESSNER'S RE-ELECTION IN 1978. A POPULARLY ELECTED CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY, CONVOKED FOR THIS PURPOSE ON MARCH 2, UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED THE MEASURE. THE AMENDMENT REMOVES THE LIMITATION OF TWO FIVE-YEAR TERMS FOR THE PRESIDENT FROM ARTICLE 173 OF THE CONSTITUTION, AND NOW WOULD ALLOW UNLIMITED RE-ELECTIONS. AS THE ASSEMBLY WAS BOYCOTTED BY THE OPPOSITION PARTIES, ONLY THE RULING COLORADO PARTY WAS REPRESENTED.

2. THIS ACT COMPLETES THE CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT PROCESS, WHICH BEGAN OFFICIALLY IN JUNE 1976 WITH A RESOLUTION IN THE CHAMBER OF DEPUTIES. PRESIDENT STROESSNER, WHO LAST MONTH WAS QUOTED AS SAYING THAT HE HAD NOT LIFTED A FINGER TO BRING ABOUT THE AMENDMENT, IS SCHEDULED TO ATTEND THE CLOSING CEREMONIES OF THE ASSEMBLY TODAY.

LANDAU

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptoning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** ELECTION RESULTS, CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS, ELECTION CANDIDATES  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Sent Date:** 11-Mar-1977 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Note:**  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:**  
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**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
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**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
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**Office:** ACTION ARA  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Reference:** 77 ASUNCION 486  
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**Subject:** CONSTITUTION AMENDED TO ALLOW STROESSNER RE-ELECTION  
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**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
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